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The Indwelling of the Ruach
8: 9-11

The indwelling of the Ruach DIG: What is the difference between being baptized in, by, and with the Ruach Ha'Kodesh, and being continually filled with the Ruach? How do we see evidence of the Trinity here in these verses? Who was the Divine Agent of Messiah's resurrection? Why, and how should that be an encouragement to you?

REFLECT: What kind of a grade will you give to your walk with the Ruach? When you are going through a spiritually dry time in your life, what do you do to get out of it? Do you pray, "Lord fill me with your Ruach?" When unhealthy thoughts enter your mind, what have you found most helpful in dealing with them? What is our rock-solid hope even in tough times?

Keep on being filled with the Ruach.



Paul now turns to address **his** readers directly. **But you,** as believers**, you do not identify with your old nature but with the Ruach – provided the Ruach of God is living inside you (8:9a).** In a marvelous and incomprehensible way**, the Spirit** is not only **living inside** the believer in the sense of position, but **He** lives in him as **His** home. **The Ruach Ha'Kodesh** has a ministry to perform in him, namely, to give him victory over his **[sin nature]** and produce **His** own fruit. Thus, the saved person is not in the grip of his [sin nature], but under the control of **the Spirit** as he yields himself to **Him**.[208]

For anyone who doesn't have the Ruach of the Messiah doesn't belong to Him (8:9b). The person who gives no evidence of the presence, power, and fruit of **God's Spirit** in his life has no legitimate claim to **Messiah** as **Savior** and **Lord**. The person who demonstrates no desire for the things of **God** and has no inclination to avoid sin or passion to please **ADONAI** is not indwelt by **the Ruach**, and thus **doesn't belong to Yeshua**. In light of that sobering truth, **Paul** warns those who claim to be believers: **Examine yourselves to see whether you are living the life of trust. Test yourselves. Don't you realize that Yeshua the Messiah is in you? – unless you fail to pass the test (Second Corinthians 13:5).**[209]

Some are confused by the fact that there are people who come into their place of worship and for all intents and purposes appear to be saved. They dress the right way and say the right things. They serve on committees and might even be teaching a class or two. But they are wolves in sheep's clothing (see the commentary on **Jude, to see link click Ah – Godless People Have Secretly Slipped In Among You**). Eventually, when their rotten fruit is revealed, some will ask if they were even saved to begin with? The answer would be, "No, you can't lose your salvation" (see the commentary on **The Life of Christ Ms – The Eternal Security of the Believer**). Those wolves were never saved in the first place. **John** teaches that **they went out from us, but they weren't part of us; for had they been part of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, showing that they were never** believers **(First John 2:19).**

There are two distinct ministries of the Ruach:

First, YHVH seals us with **His Ruach (Ephesians 1:13-14; Second Corinthians 1:21-22),** and **baptized** (in the Greek aorist tense, *pointing to a past completed action*) **in**, **by**, and **with the Ruach ha-Kodesh (Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5, 11:16),** into **the Body of Messiah (Galatians 3:27; First Corinthians 12:13)** at the moment of salvation. Hence, **there is** only **one baptism (Ephesians 4:5).** It is something that we don't cooperate in with **God**, it is **His** sovereign act.

Secondly, there is **the filling** of **the Ruach**. You are sanctified, this is something that you cooperate with **God** and is ongoing. This speaks of your daily walk with **the Lord**. Through **filling**, **God** pours out **His love** through your life to others and sets you apart for **His** holy use. In the Scriptures **to be filled** is used to mean "to be controlled by, or be under the influence of something or someone else." To be filled with **the Spirit**, therefore, is to be controlled or strongly influenced by **the Spirit**.

Don't get drunk with wine, because it makes you lose control. Instead, keep on being filled (in the Greek imperfect tense, *pointing to continuous action*) **with the Ruach (Ephesians 5:18).** As **drunkenness** affects behavior for evil, **being filled with the Ruach** affects a person for good. As a **drunken** person is under **the control** of **wine**, so a **Ruach filled** person is under **the control** of **the Ruach**. This does not make you a robot, without your own will. Rather, you freely comply with **the Ruach** and **His** purposes and **His** Word. That is what it means to be "spiritual."

The **filling** of **the Ruach** is commanded by **God**: **keep on being filled with the Ruach,** literally, stay **filled (Ephesians 5:18).** As imperfect humans, we are leaky vessels of clay, and we need to be constantly **refilled**. This was true even for **the apostles (Acts 2:4, 4:8** and **31, 9:17, 13:9)**. This continuous condition of **being filled with the Ruach** is dependent on our submission to **the Spirit**. You may wonder, can a believer resist **the Ruach** and still be a believer? Yes, people can resist the filling of **the Ruach**. Therefore, the challenge we have as believers is to be controlled by **the Ruach** and not our flesh. This is why we have believers at so many different levels of relationship with **Yeshua**. Some have a closer walk with **the Ruach** than others. Some believers have **love**, **joy**, and **peace** while others are depressed and anxious.[210]

However, still addressing his readers, **assuming that Messiah is in you, then, on the one hand, the body is dead because it's [sin nature]. The body** here is the believer's human **body**. The word **spirit** (Greek: *pneuma*, meaning *breath, spirit, wind*) here does not refer to **the Ruach**, which is not a logical contrast to **the** human **body**, but to **the** human **spirit**, that part of the person which gives them **God**-consciousness and enables them when that **spirit** is made alive by **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh**, to worship **ADONAI**. **The** believer's human **body is dead** in the sense because of **its [sin nature]**, Adam's **sin** which brought both spiritual and physical **death** to each member of the human race. **But, on the other hand, [the spirit is alive] because God considers you righteous (8:10).** The believer's **spirit is alive** in that **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** energizes **it** with divine life which results in his or her being declared **righteous**.[211]

The interchange of the titles **Ruach of God** and **Ruach of Messiah** in **8:9** argues strongly for the deity of **Yeshua Messiah**. This statement also makes it clear that the indwelling presence of **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** is the identifying mark of a believer in **Yeshua Messiah (First John 3:24** and **4:13)**. Another significant fact is that here **8:10** equates the indwelling presence of **Messiah (Messiah is in you)**

with the indwelling presence of **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** below in **8:11**. All this adds further support to the biblical doctrine of **the Trinity**.

And if the Spirit of the One who raised Yeshua from the dead is living in you, then the One who raised the Messiah Yeshua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Ruach living in you (8:11). It was again **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** who was **the Divine Agent** of **Messiah's** resurrection. And just as **the Spirit** lifted **Yeshua** out of physical **death** and **gave Him life** in **His mortal body**, so **the Ruach**, who lives in the believer, give to him **life** now and forever **(John 6:63; Second Corinthians 3:6)**.[212] Therefore, **God's** powerful **Ruach, living in** us, guarantees that **YHVH** will fulfill **His** promises and give us rock-solid hope even when passing through times of distress and apparent despair.[213]

*Dear Powerful and Living Heavenly **Father**, Praise **You** for not only giving us eternal life thru the righteousness of **Yeshua (Second Corinthians 5:21)**; but **You** also give us life right now on earth by **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** living within those who **love** you**. After you heard the message of truth – the Good News of your salvation – and when you put your trust in Him, you were sealed with the promised Ruach Ha'Kodesh. He is the guarantee of our inheritance, until the redemption of His possession – to His glorious praise (Ephesians 1:13-14)!***

*Thank **You** for giving **Your** children a **Helper** Who lives within us and is there to help and to guide us when any **temptation** comes. **No temptation has taken hold of you except what is common to mankind. But God is faithful – He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can handle. But with the temptation He will also provide a way of escape, so you will be able to endure it (First Corinthians 10:13).** What a joy it is to know **You**, to **love You** and to follow **You**. Even when hard times come and I am mocked and laughed at because of my **love** for **You**, I will keep my eyes on **Your** great **love** and the joy of living with **You** forever in heaven for all eternity. I will not give in to **temptation** to retaliate at those who hurt me, but I will choose to pray for them to come to open their hearts to **love You** as their **Lord** and **Savior**. In **Yeshua's** holy name and power of **His** resurrection. Amen*